

Montana Board of Nursing

301 South Park, Suite 401 · P.O. Box 200513 · Helena, MT · 59620-0513

Dear Dean or Director,

As you know, our state has been a member of the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC). As part of the NLC, our board of nursing issues a multistate license that allows nurses who hold this license to practice physically, electronically, telephonically and/or by telehealth in other NLC states, where patients or students may be located, without applying for and obtaining an additional license.

Recently, new legislation was passed to join an updated, enhanced version of the NLC, known as the enhanced NLC (eNLC). Please take a moment to read this letter and the enclosed documents to be sure that you and your faculty and students understand how licensure is changing in our state and what you need to do to prepare for this.

As of January 19, 2018, the eNLC will be officially implemented in Montana. This has several implications for nurse faculty in your nursing school:

1. All nurses with a current Montana multistate license will be grandfathered into the eNLC and no further action is needed on their part unless they change their state of residence.
2. All new nurse faculty declaring Montana their state of residence will need to meet the eNLC uniform licensure requirements. (See enclosed documents). An educator who does not qualify for the multistate license may still be issued a single state license.
3. As with the original NLC, nurse faculty practicing or teaching in other states on their multistate license must adhere to the laws and regulations of the state where the patients or students are located.
4. The states that are a part of the eNLC are not the same as in the original NLC. Please see the enclosed map. Nurse faculty with an eNLC multistate license can use that license to practice in other states that are part of the eNLC.
5. If your nurse faculty member in Montana is issued a single state license and you need him/her to practice or teach physically, electronically, telephonically or by telehealth in any other state, the educator will need to obtain a license from the other state(s).

This packet of information will explain the many aspects of the eNLC multistate license and its implications, including the uniform licensure requirements that a nurse must meet in order to qualify for the multistate license, a map of the current states that will be part of the eNLC and a fact sheet for your faculty and students that addresses pertinent questions. In addition, the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) has a website (ncsbn.org/enlc) that will provide you with the details you need to know about this change for licensure in our state. The NCSBN website has numerous resources available for your use including written information, videos and infographics. It will also lead you to our state board of nursing website that has state-specific information on it. Please take advantage of these resources so that everyone in your institution is well-informed.

After you and your administrative team have reviewed all this information, we ask that you hold meetings with your faculty and students to disseminate information so that they are well informed about the multistate license.

Thank you for your attention to this very important matter.



Sharon Peterson
Executive Officer
Montana Board of Nursing

Licensure in Montana is Changing!

Fact Sheet for Faculty and Students

Our state has joined the enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact (eNLC). Please take a moment to read the information below about the eNLC and how it may affect your license.

- The enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact (eNLC) is very similar to the original Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) our state belongs to.
- States that are members of the eNLC will issue multistate licenses that allow you to practice physically, electronically and/or telephonically across a state border to patients located in other states that are members of the eNLC.
- If you have a current Montana multistate license, you will be grandfathered into the eNLC and no further action is needed from you unless you move to another state.
- As with the original NLC, if you practice in other states on your multistate license, you must adhere to the laws and regulations of the state where the patient is located.

Here are some important changes we want you to know about:

- The eNLC has specific licensure requirements, these are called “Uniform Licensure Requirements (ULRs).” As stated above, all nurses previously declaring Montana their home state and holding a multistate license will be grandfathered into the eNLC; however, if you move to another state that is a member of the eNLC, you will need to meet the ULRs in order to obtain a multistate license. Likewise, all nurses applying for licensure and declaring Montana their home state will need to meet the ULRs.
- The states that are part of the eNLC are not exactly the same as the original NLC. If you have an eNLC multistate license, you can only practice in those designated eNLC states (see ncsbn.org/enlc for an updated map).
- If you need to practice in a state that is not a member of the eNLC, you need a single state license issued from that state regardless of whether you hold a multistate license.

If you need more information:

- The National Council of State Boards of Nursing has a website (ncsbn.org/enlc) that will provide you with the details you need to know about this new and exciting change for licensure in your state.
- On the website, there are numerous resources available for your use, including written information, videos and infographics.
- The website will also lead you to our state board of nursing website that has state-specific information on it.



The State of the Compact



For up-to-date information, visit ncsbn.org/eNLC.

Uniform Licensure Requirements for a Multistate License

Requirements:

An applicant for licensure in a state that is part of the eNLC will need to meet the following uniform licensure requirements:

1. Meets the requirements for licensure in the home state (state of residency);
2.
 - a. Has graduated from a board-approved education program; or
 - b. Has graduated from an international education program (approved by the authorized accrediting body in the applicable country and verified by an independent credentials review agency);
3. Has passed an English proficiency examination (applies to graduates of an international education program not taught in English or if English is not the individual's native language);
4. Has passed an NCLEX-RN® or NCLEX-PN® Examination or predecessor exam;
5. Is eligible for or holds an active, unencumbered license (i.e., without active discipline);
6. Has submitted to state and federal fingerprint-based criminal background checks;
7. Has no state or federal felony convictions;
8. Has no misdemeanor convictions related to the practice of nursing (determined on a case-by-case basis);
9. Is not currently a participant in an alternative program;
10. Is required to self-disclose current participation in an alternative program; and
11. Has a valid United States Social Security number.

